

Montana State Digital Library February and March 2014

Prepared for the April 9th, 2014 Commission meeting
by Jim Kammerer, Library Information Services manager

This report represents accomplishments of:
Library Information Services (LIS),
MSL Geographic Information
and the Montana Natural Heritage Program (MTNHP).

Goal One—Content: MSL acquires and manages relevant quality content that meets the needs of Montana library users.

- The Geographic Information Program received the final version of the CadNSDI_2 data from BLM. This database constitutes the complete public land survey system including townships, sections, quarter sections, special surveys and some historic data. Under the MT CATSPAW project (see goal 5-collaboration) the data is being processed and loaded into the Esri parcel fabric.
- Working with State Information Technology Services Division (SITSD) and Department of Administration General Services Division, the Geographic Information program has compiled a database of structure points and addresses of state owned, leased and rented facilities. This database has been provided to them in an interactive ArcGIS on-line mapping application. While the project is still in progress, General Services has been extremely impressed with this new capability to view by location what they manage.
- The Wetland and Riparian Mapping Center of the MTNHP has updated its status map, which can be found at http://mtnhp.org/nwi/images/wetland_status.jpg. To date, nearly 2.2 million acres of wetlands and riparian areas have been mapped by the center.
- Karen Newlon, MTNHP Ecologist/Project Manager, and Robin Lium, MTNHP Wetland Mapping Coordinator, completed a major update of the Wetland and Riparian Framework. It will be available for download from the web and accessible via a live map service.
- Outreach and Electronic Resources Librarian, Alana Mueller-Brunckhorst continues to rotate in new Safari Books from ProQuest providing access to 50 titles from a much larger collection of 32,773 available titles related to technology, creativity, and business from leading publishers. LIS staff continues to promote use of the "Explore" feature within the Safari Books interface that allows users to recommend new titles for LIS to rotate into the collection. The

“Explore” feature removes some of the guess work associated with collection development.

- Jim Kammerer, LIS manager and Beth Downs, State Publications Librarian, met with Cathy Maynard from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to coordinate Facebook posting of digitized, historic content: “Summary of Snow Survey Measurements for Montana, 1922-1974” and a link to current Montana water supply data. Also discussed with NRCS staff how to work together to digitize the historic, print run of “Montana Water Supply Outlook Report” located in our federal document collection and integrate it with web archive of newer issues of the same title.
- JoLynn Genzlinger, Digital Services Technician, and Beth Downs processed the last shipment of historic, print state publications necessary to complete the fiscal year 2014 contract on time. LIS staff also worked with state procurement office to amend and submit a fifth renewal, six year of the Internet Archive contract with a minimum value of \$40,000 with the option to purchase additional scanning.

Goal Two—Access: MSL provides libraries, agencies, and its partners and patrons with convenient, high quality, and cost-effective access to library content and services.

- Working with the MSL IT application developer, Geographic Information Staff have moved into final testing phase for the new data discovery list and data bundler. The new data list allows metadata providers the ability to submit metadata records and will replace the outdated data portal. As part of the functional requirements of the data list project, an EBSCO compliant XML string was developed that will expose our geographic metadata records through the Discover-It tools. The new bundler has the ability to clip and ship data and metadata both data housed in the MSL collection as well as data housed in-house at other agencies. Both applications are scheduled to go to production the last week in March and be unveiled at the Intermountain GIS Conference in April.
- MSL IT has completed the storage modifications required to host the 2013 NAIP aerial photography. Processing is underway and we expect the imagery service to be available by the end of March.
- MTNHP released a new Beta test version of its MapViewer web mapping, query, and reporting application. This new version is significantly faster and has new easy-to-use features including a new add observation tool. The add observation tool allows anyone to enter animal observations with associated photographs directly into the MTNHP animal observation database. MapViewer contains 1) land cover/land use, 2) wetlands/riparian areas, 3) managed areas, 4) geo-

referenced photos, and 5) observation databases. Try the new version at: <http://mtnhp.org/MapViewBeta/>

- Alana Mueller-Brunckhorst, Beth Downs, and Jim Kammerer launched the Montana State Library Government Information Facebook page. There were a few initial kinks to be worked out as we learned about the interplay between personal and corporate accounts. We finally figured out how to access the news feed, search, and messaging features from the corporate account. These features are critical in order to engage our users and become more knowledgeable about their interests. Next, we need to learn more about when and how to comment on Facebook pages of other institutions. It is tricky because our comments are posted as a collective body and not as individuals.

Goal Three—Training: MSL provides appropriate trainings and training resources so that the best use can be made of the resources offered.

- Sam Suber, Cataloging/Metadata Analyst, sought and acquired permission from a library services organization to host and invite a limited number of non-members to an all-day RDA webinar at the Montana State Library. The caliber of the presenters was high enough to attract out of town cataloguers.
- Alana Mueller-Brunckhorst attended the Electronic Resources and Libraries annual meeting, March 16-19, 2014 in Austin, TX. The majority of attendees came from academic and special libraries. Staff member reported listening to anecdotes shared by other attendees who expressed similar issues in managing and providing access to electronic resources. The commiseration was comforting. Staff member also learned of some activities we can do to improve service.

Goal Four—Consultation and Leadership: MSL provides consultation and leadership to enable users to set and reach their goals.

- The PLSS CadNSDI Change Management Process (included in the February report), co-authored by Stu Kirkpatrick and Nancy Von Meyer, has been accepted by the BLM as the process for maintenance of the PLSS database in Montana. MSL will put together a PLSS change management team in the coming month. This model is being distributed nationally as a template for how states can work with stakeholders to manage change in a PLSS Database.
- State Librarian Jennie Stapp chaired the March meeting of the Montana Land Information advisory Council. Council staff Stu Kirkpatrick worked with Jennie to develop the agenda and present the Council with a proposed strategic GIS vision for the next two years. Council consensus was that MSL should work with stakeholders to further develop the strategic vision for presentation at the May meeting.

- Jennie Stapp, Evan Hammer and Stu Kirkpatrick are working with the CIO's office to attempt to renegotiate the State's enterprise license agreement for GIS software with Esri. The initial meeting between parties was held March 20.
- Jim Kammerer, Alana Mueller-Brunckhorst, and JoLynn Genzlinger made preliminary visits to DEQ and FWP buildings. Jim and JoLynn each introduced the Outreach and Electronic Resources librarian to a few employees at both agencies, including one of the public information officers at DEQ. The in-person visits are part of a process of figuring out how to foster greater engagement with state agencies that occurs naturally without being intrusive.

Goal Five—Collaboration: MSL promotes partnerships and encourages collaboration among its users.

- The Geographic Information program formalized MT CATSPA as a project.



- Working with all the project partners, sharing both data and technical skills, MSL will assume custodianship and maintenance of the PLSS GIS database to increase the spatial accuracy and provide more timely revisions.
- LIS staff is working with SLR staff to create a subject guide to library resources about the Wilderness Act, Montana wilderness areas, and wilderness recreation. This information will be included in a soon to be published Wilderness Companion to help libraries participate in the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act of 1964.
- MTNHP recently entered into two new agreements with:
 1. Natural Resources Conservation Service to collect field vegetation data in support of Ecological Site Description development and to develop and write Ecological Site Descriptions for two ecological sites occurring along the Hi-

Line.

2. Montana Department of Environmental Quality to support wetland map training efforts and guide the implementation of two strategic directions in the Wetland and Riparian Strategic Framework
<http://deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/Wetlands/PDFs/StrategicFramework2013-2017.pdf>: Wetland Mapping and Wetland Assessment and Monitoring.
- Karen Newlon (MTNHP Ecologist/Project Manager) will be presenting on Wetland and Riparian Mapping in Montana at the Montana Wetland Council Meeting in Missoula on March 26.
 - Linda Vance (MTNHP Senior Ecologist) was an invited speaker on "Mapping Russian Olive Distribution Along Montana Rivers" at a Russian Olive Symposium sponsored by the Northern Rockies Invasive Plant Council Conference in Spokane on February 10.
 - Linda Vance (MTNHP Senior Ecologist) and Susan Lenard, Paul Hendricks (former MTNHP zoologists) reported on "Bat Activity in Riverine Stands of Native Plains Cottonwood and Naturalized Russian Olive in Eastern Montana" at a Russian Olive Symposium sponsored by the Northern Rockies Invasive Plant Council Conference in Spokane on February 10.
 - Sara Owen (MTNHP Ecologist/GIS Specialist) and Jamul Hahn (MTNHP GIS Specialist) completed a report on "Changes in Fish Habitat on the Missouri River from Fort Peck Dam to the North Dakota State Line: 1956-2009" for Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.
 - Dave Stagliano (MTNHP Aquatic Ecologist) gave a talk on "Documenting the Decline and Recovery of a Powder River Fish Community using Long Term Monitoring Data" at the Montana Chapter of the American Fisheries Society in Emigrant, MT on March 4.
 - Linda Vance (MTNHP Senior Ecologist), Claudine Tobalske (GIS Analyst/Ecologist) and Steve Brown (US Forest Service Partner) will be presenting on "Mapping Mortality in Montana's Whitebark Pine Forests" at the Northwest Science Association Conference in Missoula on March 28.
 - Linda Vance (MTNHP Senior Ecologist), and Jen Chutz (MTNHP seasonal technician) will be discussing "Distribution and characteristics of Groundwater-Dependent Wetlands in Western Montana Forests" at the Northwest Science Association Conference in Missoula on March 28.

Goal Six—Sustainable Success: MSL is efficient and effective (measured against user outcomes), and is engaged in fulfilling its mission.

- Following the recent MSL Commission approval of the new Circulation and Information Access policy, Jim Kammerer made phone calls to all public patrons with MSL library cards that had current privileges and any activity in the past year. LIS also sent out letters to all MSL public patrons with current privileges that had had no activity in the past year. The phone calls and letters were important communications to explain why the policy revision was necessary in order to align with current practice and our existing electronic resources license agreements. Phone call recipients all expressed their appreciation and only a few had any questions or concerns.
- LIS created an Information Desk located midway between the reading room and the public access computers. The goal is to provide a more welcoming environment with greater staff visibility and availability for users needing assistance. Staff at the Information Desk will be responsible for welcoming patrons and guests to the library, answering information requests, managing guest passes for the public access computers, checking out materials, the conference room mice, presenters, and newspapers.
- Information is the currency and medium of exchange for all MSL activity and records management is the day to day practice for handling that information either well or not so well. MSL agency records custodian, Jim Kammerer met for several months with the House Joint Resolution 2 (HJR2) Work Group composed of members from state, county, and local representatives tasked with investigating and providing recommendations on how to improve records management from an enterprise to department level. Discussions were wide-ranging covering statutory governance structures, compliance authority, home-grown preservation systems, funding, personal information protection, right to know, etc. The intended outcome is legislative action that fosters better records management at the state, county, and local levels including Montana State Library.